

PENNY-WISE

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INTRODUCTION BY THE EDITOR: NAISSANCE AND RENAISSANCE

Harry E. Salyards

At the recent EAC Convention, watching a fifteen year-old attendee engrossed by listening to 96 year-old Eric Newman, I thought – *this* is how the collecting tradition goes on: by a dawning interest in coins as historic artifacts, tangible means of understanding times long past.

The two generations “in between,” as it were, saw coin collecting all too often as a “something for nothing” proposition (find that 1914D cent in dad’s pocket change!), or through the siren song of high profits from speculation, primarily in gold and silver obtainable by the roll and bag (each conveniently undervalued by government fiat for the previous forty years). Those days are not coming back.

Indeed, several *millennia* of coinage will likely come to an end before that 15 year old reaches Eric’s age, as money itself comes to mean merely numbers scanned onto one electronic screen or another. And there’ll no doubt be a brisk market for a time, among the speculators, in bags of Lincoln cents and Jefferson nickels, as the last hurrah of ‘full value in metal’: a concept which has been dying piecemeal from the end of the lettered edge cents in the fall of 1795, through the Coinage Act of 1853, the gold regulations of 1933, and the Coinage Act of 1965: more *history*, history there for the curious, and ultimately, the necessary *context* for the coins.

It is in that sense of context that we treasure the *survivors*: the large cents and half cents and, yes, the early gold and silver, that *weren’t* turned in at the Mint in 1857, that *weren’t* immediately melted when their metal value exceeded their face value: whether we’re talking silver dollars in 1805, gold in the 1820s, or the half dollars up through 1852, as the Ship of Bimetallism tossed wildly on the seas of international exchange rates: more history!

And if those survivors go up in value – double or triple, even – we hold them all the more *tightly* for the time that we’re given: hardly the speculator’s style!

At that recent convention, I felt all of this, and something more: a rekindling of a long-dormant fire: which led to my first purchases in the EAC Sale in seven years. And I came home, and discovered that one of those acorns I’d carefully carried home from Walden Pond, in the fall of 2002, and planted under our south bedroom window, after five Nebraska winters and summers, is suddenly a six-inch oak seedling, with two parallel leaves:

Naissance and Renaissance.



2007 CONVENTION DIARY

Mike Packard

Day One

I flew to St. Louis on Wednesday this year because I wanted to be fresh for the half cent whist match between Bob Yuell and Mike Spurlock. No other EACers were on my flight from DC to St Louis, so I read a couple of issues of *Smithsonian* magazine I'd brought along. At the St. Louis airport I ran into Rich Weber from Houston and Al Boka from Las Vegas. Al was carrying a large portfolio with the display material for the "Boys of '94" exhibit on the S-37. Thirteen of the 17 known examples were expected to be in the exhibit.

At the check-in, Mike Spurlock came by and invited me to his room once I was settled in. I settled in quickly and found that Mike and his roommate for the convention, Russ Butcher, were looking at some of Mike's coins and comparing them with coins Russ brought. From what I saw, tomorrow was going to be a very good match. Russ had a couple of interesting pieces that caught my eye. Both were 1800 half cents. The first was a double-struck piece with the second strike about 90 degrees clockwise from the first. Liberty's face from the first strike was in the second strike's hair and looking at the word "LIBERTY". The second was a fascinating piece that was struck at least five times. It had a partial reverse brockage at the bottom of the final strike's obverse. The reverse showed a partial understrike of a blank planchet, the undertype of "HALF" shifted above and to the left of the "HALF" of the final strike, and the undertype of "STATES" shifted down and to the right of "STATES" on the final strike. I do not know how all the visible undertype survived that many strikes or why there was no visible undertype on the obverse. A curious, fascinating piece. I teased Russ with a couple of die states I'd brought along—one, an 1804 C-7 Manley state 4.8, I was hoping to sell and the other, an 1804 C-9 Manley state 3 (the plate coin) was to show at the half cent happening, but I did not intend to sell it. Russ is a serious die state collector, and let me know he was interested in both pieces. I smiled.

Several other people joined us in Mike and Russ' room—Bob Yuell, Ed Fuhrman, Greg Heim, Howard Barron, and Bill and Susan Eckberg. Soon, however, it was time for those who had tickets to the ball game to leave for dinner and the game, and the friendly, if crowded session broke up.

After dropping my coins at the security room, I joined Howard Barron and Mark Switzer for an enjoyable dinner at the hotel. A lot of the conversation was about the trials and tribulations of being a coin dealer. I was sharing a table with Howard at the convention and I had wanted to get his input on pricing. I did not want to ask too much for what I was selling, but I did not want to give the items away either. Unfortunately, my coins were in security so Howard could not give input Wednesday night. We talked coins instead.

Day Two

I met Howard a little after 7 am, and we decided to walk about a mile up the road to a Denny's for breakfast. Greg Heim and Jeff Noonan joined us. It was a very nice morning for a walk. Talk was mostly about half cents, and the whist match that was scheduled to start at 10 am.

There were about 18 people in the room at the whist match, by far the largest crowd I'd ever seen at a match. There were about six trays that were being passed around, each with the two

examples of one particular variety. There was lots of conversation on grading, problems, die states, *etc.* The match moved right along with only the occasional back up. It was an educational and enjoyable time. Bob easily won the pole to cap series, but then had to watch as the judges decided Mike had the large number of more desirable examples of the draped bust, classic head, and braided hair varieties. In the end, I understand, Mike won going away. I had to leave at 3 pm to set up, so I did not see the coins at the end of the match.

I picked up my coins from security and began putting them in my case. I'd not gotten far when Don Valenziano and Don Weathers stopped by to ensure my convention got off to a roaring start from the selling perspective. They gratefully took many of my coins, and I gratefully took their money. I sold Greg Heim a nice double struck 1804 C-13 with several small counterstamps and Steve Carr a couple of low grade/low priced early large cents. Chuck Furjanic decided to relieve me of a couple of half cents as well. It was a very good start. Too soon, the bourse closed. I did not really have time to put out most of my coins. That would have to happen Friday morning. I grabbed my half cent happening coins and moved out into the hall where the hospitality festivities were getting underway. Ira and Larry Goldberg covered the hospitality food costs, and they provided a feast. Thank you both.

After the hospitality festivities, we repaired to several meeting rooms for the happenings. I put out my rather modest examples of the 1794 C-9, 1795 C-3, 1804 C-9, 1807 C-1, and 1826 C-2 half cents. I do not own any proof half cents so I could not add anything the table for the 1847 proofs. I do not think I have any half cents that would challenge for most desirable of a variety, but I put whatever I have out each year because I may have an unusual die state that will intrigue others, and I like to see where my pieces place in relation to other examples that are being shown. Not surprisingly, R. Tettenhorst and Jim McGuigan vied for the first and second spots for most varieties. What surprised me this year is that there were 15 1795 C-3s being shown for a variety that is supposed to be an R-5+ rarity, and eleven of the 15 were nice planchet pieces. I think the variety must be more common than currently assumed.

I was one of the monitors at the 1804 C-9 table and was pleased to see that a number of people were in awe of my Manley state 3 and a Manley state 5 that was double struck. The doubled cud is something to behold, and the double state 5 die cracks make it one of my favorite pieces. Russ studied the state 3 piece and again expressed his interest. Again, I smiled.

After putting in time as a monitor at the table with the 1804 C-9s, then walking the floor judging which of each variety being shown I would prefer to own, I moved to the large cent happening and viewed the coins there, and then went to the colonial happening. The colonial group does things differently. There are no predetermined varieties that people bring. Instead, collectors just bring a piece or two that they find interesting for show and tell. Ray Williams sets up a camera and uses a projector to project an image of the item being scanned onto a screen for all to see and comment upon. I walked in at the end of a discussion of Massachusetts coppers and was asked to tell the story of the *Columbia-Rediviva* that set sail from Boston on September 29, 1787 with several hundred Massachusetts cents and half cents on board for trade and presentation purposes. The colonial guys kept going long after the large cent and half cent happenings had ended.

A collector friend contacted me before EAC and said he was bringing some colonial pieces to sell and would offer me first pick if I would help price the Massachusetts pieces. He gave me a box before the happenings, and I enjoyed a nice hour after them looking at what he brought,

writing up comments on the Massachusetts pieces, and thinking about prices. There were many nice pieces in the box including a few pieces I decided I wanted for my own collection.

Day Three

Friday was another beautiful day. Greg, Jeff and I had a nice walk to and from Denny's. I got to the bourse before it opened to the public and finished setting up. I then found the friend who brought the box of colonials, negotiated a price for the pieces I wanted, and suggested what he should ask for most of the others. I sold a few more pieces including three early half cents to a collector who hoped to add four new varieties to his half cent collection. He later told me he had found the fourth variety he was looking for at another table, and I congratulated him. I walked the floor giving out "bangers" (pocket pieces) I had made before I came to St Louis. I gave out the 100 I prepared before coming and stamped 7 more on large cents given to me by members at the convention. I was away from my table quite a lot and apologize to those who were looking for me.

While walking the floor, I took the opportunity to look at the exhibits. They seem to get better every year. My favorites were those by Tett, the Boys of '94, and Tony Terranova. Tett put out a few of his error half cent pieces. Included were a uniface 1809 (only the reverse was struck), a row of full brockages, overstruck pieces including a marvelous 1797 low head half cent struck over a 1798 cent (with the 1798 prominent near the center of the piece), and off center strikes among others. Tett also showed various die states (reverse cracks) on the proof only 1831 (reverse of 1836) half cent. The Boys of '94 showed 13 of the 17 S-37 pieces, including the two in the ANS collection. Very educational and professionally done. Tony showed some miscellaneous colonials including the different types of Nova Eboracs. I'm always amazed at Tony's collection pieces because they are so much nicer than I almost ever see. The other exhibits were also wonderful and educational, but those struck a chord with me.

All too soon, it was time to close the bourse and board the buses to Washington University for dinner at the Faculty Club and to visit Eric Newman's new Money Museum. About 165 people signed up. This is too many people for the Money Museum, so half of the people (two busses) went to the Money Museum first and the other half went to the Faculty Club. My group did the Museum first. I sat by Ron Manley on the trip over and he told me about some fascinating genealogical research he has been doing. I've done some searching for people associated with the Massachusetts copper mint, but I am not a serious genealogist. My father finds it a wonderful retirement pastime, however. Presently we arrived at the Museum and found our way to Eric's showpiece. Ben Franklin greeted us at the door and imparted sage advice on money matters to all who entered. There were a number of nice exhibits. Eric believes in telling history through money, and we all came away better educated. I hope there are a number of pictures for all to share. I really liked Eric's library, which takes up about 20 percent of the floor space. The star of the show was George Washington's pocket piece, a gold 1792 Washington President piece. It was in a prominent display case and Eric, who is 96 and still sharp as a tack, presented his well thought out rationale for why this piece was intended as a presentation piece and not as a coin of the realm. He is remarkable and stayed to entertain the second group.

Dinner at the Faculty club was a wonderful feast of turkey, roast beef, crab claws, shrimp and many other goodies. My only complaint was that they ran out of the double-chocolate brownies, and I had to settle for cheesecake brownies. Sometimes you just have to suffer. All kidding aside,

the visit to the Museum and the dinner were highlights of the convention. Thank you, Eric and Tett! You were most gracious hosts and your generosity was greatly appreciated by all.

Day Four

Saturday Greg and I decided not to walk to Denny's but ate breakfast at a nearby diner where we joined up with Howard Barron and David Pepe. There was only one waitress and she was flying, trying to serve every one. We all agreed that the Friday night festivities were worth the trip to St Louis.

I spent some time at my table Saturday, looked at EAC Sale lots, looked at what other dealers had brought to sell, and hammered names into the bangers to give away. I always feel a little guilty that I do not have enough to give a banger to everyone at the convention. If you'd like one, ask, and I will put your name on my list and personalize one before the end of the convention. If you have an old, cull large cent I can stamp, so much the better. It's getting hard to find them cheap on eBay or anywhere else, for that matter. My one rule is that you have to attend the convention to get a banger. (I sometimes make exceptions if you provide me with banger stock.)

There were some nice pieces in the Sale, but nothing that grabbed me as something I just had to have. A couple of the pieces that looked good in the catalogue were not as nice "in the copper," but other pieces were nicer than I'd expected. I was curious how Jules Reiver's 1793 electros would do. They were, for the most part, very nicely done and most even had edge lettering or vine and bars.

One thing I did not do this year was to attend any of the educational sessions. I understand they were all well done and well received. They were all video taped, and I may have to order CDs of a couple of the sessions.

Saturday evening, a group of 13 of us went up the road a piece for barbeque. Well done. The Brunswick stew and ribs were excellent. The only disappointment for me was that there were no hush puppies.

The Sale was almost a disaster. Chuck Heck, our auctioneer, wanted to sing, but those of us who had heard him sing booed loudly. Chuck stormed off in a huff. No auctioneer. But wait, from the back of the room comes a savior, in formal wear, no less. Yes, Denis Loring just happened to be in the room and was willing to save the day. Twenty-seven minutes and 101 lots later the half cents were done. Denis does not dawdle. (Actually, it took Denis about 50 minutes to cover the 101 lots, but he *still* does not dawdle.) A host of half cent collectors left at that point. I stuck around for the electros. Most went in the \$1,500 range although a couple of the "lesser" pieces went under \$1,000 and the NC-1 electro hammered at \$3,600. What I found surprising was that an electro of a Smith Counterfeit (a 1794 cent that was retooled and given a 1793 date) sold for more than the genuine Smith Counterfeit in the sale. Go figure.

Day Five

I had breakfast with George Trostel of Connecticut. We made it to the General Meeting just before 8 am. Dan Holmes ran a good meeting and kept things on schedule. We were out before nine. In the hour we gave kudos to all who helped organize the convention with special thanks to Eric, Tett and Tett's assistant, Marsha Birk. (Marsha really kept the trains running on time.) Chuck Heck did just about everything else and also deserves our thanks. Unfortunately, his is a thankless job. Dan announced that the next three conventions would be in Dallas, Cincinnati, and Annapolis and asked for volunteers for 2011 and beyond. John Wright was given a lifetime

achievement award that caught him totally off guard. It was a well-deserved recognition for a man who has done as much for early coppers as anyone. It was announced that Ralph Rucker had just become the twelfth collector to complete an early date large cent collection with all Sheldon numbers. Congratulations, Ralph. That is quite an achievement. We agreed that inviting the John Reich Collectors Society was a positive move, and we would like to invite them to join us in Dallas. (Many JRCS members are also EAC members.)

After the meeting, I checked out of my room and went to the bourse. I showed a few coins and had nice conversations with Greg Fitzgibbon and other half cent collectors, but sold no coins until Russ stopped by to look at the 1804 C-1, C-7, and C-9 again. He made a very generous offer on the C-7 and C-9 and it was time for us both to smile. He added pieces that filled holes in his die state collections and I ended the convention on a high note.

I packed up my coins about noon and enjoyed a nice lunch with Tett, Bob Yuell, Ed Fuhrman, Greg Heim, Russ Butcher, and Greg Fitzgibbon. Russ, Greg F and I sat near the lounge talking with each other and with other EAC'ers until it was time to catch the shuttle to the airport for my flight home. It was another wonderful EAC. I bought some nice coins for my collection, sold a number of duplicates and pieces that were no longer important to me, visited with old friends and made new friends, had a wonderful time at Eric Newman's Money Museum. It does not get much better than this. I am already looking forward to next year.

* * * * *



Eric Newman Money Museum
Listening to Eric



Eric Newman and Tett Tettenhorst



Clydesdales' Stalls
(with stained glass??)



Washington's Pocket Piece?



Three Happy Sexagenarians
Tony Terranova, Denis Loring
and Bill Eckberg



Thursday Reception
Bob and Laurie Grellman, Chris McCawley
and Jerry Bobbe



Thursday Night Reception
Greg Heim, Greg Fitzgibbon, Ed Fuhrman,
Bill Eckberg, Ron Manley,
Sally Lusk and Jon Lusk



Half Cent Whist Match
Rod Widok, Ray Rouse, Jeff Noonan,
Greg Heim, Greg Fitzgibbon, Ed Fuhrman
and Mike Spurlock



Spouses' Magical Mystery
Budweiser Beer Bus



At the Missouri Botanical Gardens
Marilyn Tettenhorst, Sally Lusk, Karyn Heck
and Laurie Grellman



Mike Packard and Howard Barron



Fredbird on the Cards' Dugout



Wednesday Night Baseball
Pujols makes a putout



Marsha Birk
Convention Co-Chair, par excellence!



Tett and Marilyn Tettenhorst
delighted at their wedding



Tett and Marilyn Celebrate their
Anniversary at EAC
Still delighted, 32 years later!

Convention Photos courtesy of Susan and Bill Eckberg.
Wedding photo courtesy of Marilyn Tettenhorst.

* * * * *

EAC SALE RETROSPECTIVE 1975 – 2007

Mike Gebhardt

In March of 2006, I gleefully embarked on a research project to learn more about the history of the EAC Sales which have taken place for 33 years inclusively from 1975 to 2007. I had an opportunity to present highlights during the 2007 Convention in St. Louis, but an hour is simply not enough time to absorb so much detail. With that in mind, and after some discussion with others including Harry Salyards, I have decided to break this up into manageable chunks of information that hopefully offers some insight into our annual EAC Sales over the years.

Consider this the first of such installments that I wish to present for your enjoyment. There is a Chinese proverb that has guided my research; “The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step”. For me, that step was a call to John Wright, asking for all the EAC Sale Catalogs that I might plunge into them and put this information into some kind of historical context. Pearl Buck simply states that “If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday”.

John and Mabel Ann have been most gracious in my queries about particular elements of each sale year, including a more recent foray into the Prices Realized with the hope that it would tell me a more complete part of the picture. I started out looking at only Large Cents, but their little sisters called out to me as well. At this point, I now have a record of each Sheldon, Newcomb, NC, and Cohen variety, along with coins and lots that were given no attribution. Every Lot and every coin is accounted for. The highest grade offered for that Sale year is also noted. Even coins that didn't sell were considered.

In the end, after 13 months, I consider the task to be basically completed. I also plan to keep it going forward with each Sale year with a goal of reaching the 50th sale year in 2024. After that, I'll happily hand the project over to someone of lesser age and greater sanity who has nothing better to do.

While it's still fresh in my mind, I wanted to outline some of the basic assumptions made in compiling the data, so you'll get an idea of what's being catalogued and how it's put together.

- The data is in an Excel Spreadsheet, though in retrospect, I would have likely been better served to use an Access database.
- The number of coins for each variety by year (or lack thereof if not known) is recorded, along with the best grade in that sale year.
- Summaries are also done by year for # of varieties offered.
- Average grades by coin year are done only if 3 or more varieties are represented by grades. Electrotypes or related copies are included in # of varieties represented, but excluded when considering grade.
- Each coin year is summarized, as are Early Dates, Middle Dates, Late Dates, and Total for the Large and Half Cent series.
- Each coin year represented in a Sale year is also noted. That includes 1815s and Half Cent Proof-only years and 1837 Half Cent Tokens.
- Totals are kept for the cumulative numbers and averages through the most recent (33rd) year.
- I have also tracked coins not sold for each Sale year and cumulatively. For the most part, the data reflects lots and coins offered for sale and found in the catalog. 1981 includes a

supplemental catalog presented at the Convention and not in the original printing of the Sale Catalog.

- Grades - All I can work from are the grades as catalogued over the years. As with all grading, different cataloguers may have differing opinions. Even the same cataloguer may have a different opinion of the grading they applied to a coin 20 years ago vs. a grade they would give it today.

With this background, I'd like to present a few interesting attachments that put 33 years into perspective.

- Statistical Summary, showing # of Lots and Coins by Sale year and in total
- Sale Year Summary, showing the key dates, places, people, lots, and prices realized
- 2007 Sale Year Summary, which is something I'd like to do for each Sale year. I've floated this thought to Chris Victor McCauley, to where such a one-page supplement could go out with the Sale Catalogs, generating additional interest 'hype' among the membership. I'll leave it to M&G to come after me if they think it worth pursuing.
- Half and Large Cent varieties never offered

The above information should provide some measure of perspective of the magnitude of our collective annual Sales. I hope it brings you fond recollections of past Sales. As David Thelen once said, "The challenge of history is to recover the past and introduce it to the present". I'll also look for opportunities to present other bite-sized chunks of interesting EAC Sale memorabilia in the future.

EAC Sales 1975 -- 2007						
Coins Never Offered						
Type	Year	Variety	Rarity	Year	Variety	Rarity
A. Half Cents						
	1794	C-3b	7+			
		C-4b	7			
		C-5b	7+			
		C-6b	8+			
	1808	C-1	7			
B. Large Cents						
	1793	S-15	7-	1797	NC-1	7
		S-16	6		NC-6	8
		NC-4	7+		NC-7	8+
		NC-5	8+		NC-8	8+
		NC-6	8	1798	NC-1	7+
	1794	S-33	6		NC-2	7+
		S-37	6+	1800	NC-1	8-
		NC-1	7+		NC-4	7
		NC-2	8	1801	NC-5	8
		NC-3	8	1822	N-14	7+
		NC-4	8+	1844	N-8	6+
		NC-5	8	1845	N-14	6+
		NC-6	8	1846	N-22	6+
		NC-7	8+		N-23	5
		NC-8	8-		N-24	7
		NC-9	8	1847	N-42	6+
		NC-10	8+		N-43	8+
	1795	NC-1	8-	1848	N-19	6-
		NC-2	8		N-46	8
		NC-3	7+	1851	N-42	8+
		NC-4	8		N-45	4
	1796	NC-6	8	1852	N-24	8
		NC-7	8	1857	N-3	5-

EAC Sale Year:	2007 (33rd)	Date:	4/28/07	Place:	Airport Hilton	City/State:	St. Louis, MO
Cataloger:	McCawley & Grellman						
Auctioneer:	Chuck Heck, D Denis Loring						
Prices Realized:	\$427,724						
Avg Sold Lot Price:	\$932						
Items of Note:	411 Lot pictures in catalog; record 29 electrotypes mostly from Jules Reiver. 13 diff. NCs - 16 coins - a record # in Sale; 3 NCs in same sale - 1800 NC-3; Lot 93 1849 PR60 Cohen plate coin; Lot 154 1794 NC-11 VG7+ finest known Lot 276 1800 NC-2 G6 Noyes plate coin; 2,000th Half Cent coins offered (lot 124). Well attended Sale w/150 bidders present and 70 more remote.						
						Record 74 lots unsold.	
# Lots: 533	Colonial:	5	Half Cents:	84	Large Cents:	430	
# Lots Not Sold: 74	(most)						
# Coins: 563	Colonial:	5	Half Cents:	90	Large Cents:	456	
					Early Date:	267	
					Middle Date:	106	
					Late Date:	80	
Avg. Grade:			Half Cents:	30.5	Large Cents:	24.1	
					Early Date:	14.0	
					Middle Date:	28.8	
					Late Date:	42.8	
# Years:			Half Cents:	28	Large Cents:	62	
					Early Date:	20	
					Middle Date:	24	all
					Late Date:	18	all
# Varieties:			Half Cents:	51	Large Cents:	319	
					Early Date:	174	
					Middle Date:	77	
					Late Date:	68	
Low \$ Lot:	\$18,000	#154	1794 NC-11 VG7+ finest known				
High \$ Lot:	\$20	#6	1837 HT Token Low-22 HT-36 VG8				
		#17	1982 EAC 15th Anniversary Copper Medal MS65				
HALF CENTS:							
Best Avg Grade-Yr:	1803 (25.8)						
LARGE CENTS:							
Best Avg Grade-Yr:	1818 (55), 1851 (60.7)						
Most # Varieties:	1793 (16), 1800 (21)						
Most # Coins:	1793 (25)						

EAC Large Cent Sale History										1975 - 2007																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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EAC Large Cent Sale History														
1975 - 2007														
Year	Sale Date	Time	Place	City	St	Cataloger	Auctioneer	Catalog Design	Convention Chair	Of Note				
1998	4/4/98	7:00 PM	Raddison Hotel	Boston	MA	Tom Reynolds	Dennis Loring	Steve Fischer	Peter Boisvert, Ron Adams	Lot 50 1797 Half Cent C-1 VF20 Die State VII Green plate coin				
1999	4/17/99	6:30 PM	Drawbridge Inn	Cincinnati	OH	Tom Reynolds	Dennis Loring	Steve Fischer	Rod Burruss, Paul Padgett, March Wells	Lot 115 - 1777 10 Russian Kopeks				
2000	4/8/00	7:30 PM	Raddison Resort	Cocoa Beach	FL	Tom Reynolds	Dennis Loring	Steve Fischer	Tom Morley, Bob Grellman, March Wells	Lot 63 1797 C-3c G6 CC#3 @ \$38k, included a Mail Bid section of 174 lots. 1855 N9 - 14 consecutive lots				
2001	3/31/01	7:00 PM	Holiday Inn Select	Fredericksburg	VA	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Dennis Loring	M&G, Advance Graphics	Bill Eckberg	Lanny Reinhardt reference collection of 1804 C-6 die states - 29 coins w/pics; 1st glossy catalog w/pics (357 lots); Lot 211 1797 S-134 VF35 Penny-Wise plate coin, Lot 387 - 1828 N-6 MS63 Noyes plate coin				
2002	4/20/02	7:00 PM	Oleands Hotel	Las Vegas	NV	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Dennis Loring	M&G, Advance Graphics	Wes Rasmussen, Al Boka, Jeff Gresser	Lot 99 1793 S-1 F15 @ \$11k; Lot 133 - 1794 S-36 VG10 Hays plate coin; Lot 314 1802 S-242 AU55 Green/Borckardt plate coin, Lot 417 1819 N-10 AU50+ Wright plate coin, 418 coins pictured in catalog, and a Mail Bid section of 127 lots				
2003	4/26/03	7:00 PM	Drawbridge Inn	Cincinnati	OH	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Dennis Loring	M&G, Advance Graphics	Rod Burruss, Paul Padgett	John Peters collection of Half Cents, Dr. William E. Hopkins collection of Early Date Large Cents; Lot 372 1797 S-138 VF25 @ \$6 500; Lot 138 1806 C-1 AU50 Cohen plate coin, 416 coins pictured in catalog				
2004	4/17/04	7:00 PM	Marriott Mission Valley	San Diego	CA	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Ron Guth	M&G, Advance Graphics	Jon Warshawsky, Bim Gander	Stu Hodge collection of Middle Date Large Cents; 371 coins pictured in catalog; Lot 474 1830 N-9 VF30 @ \$17k; Lot 56 1811 Half Cent Mckley restrike AU50 @ \$16k; Lot 451 1828 N-12 VF35 Wright plate coin; Lot 456 1829 N-4 XF40 Noyes plate coin				
2005	4/23/05	7:00 PM	Raddison Hotel	Annapolis	MD	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Chuck Heck	M&G, Advance Graphics	Bill Eckberg, John Kraljevich	David Garvin collection 113 lots and 143 coins - all proceeds to EAC! 297 coins pictured in catalog; Lot 93 1794 S-19a F15 @ \$8k				
2006	5/6/06	7:30 PM	Marriott Hotel	West Palm Bea	FL	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Chuck Heck	M&G, Advance Graphics	Chuck Heck, Denis Loring, March Wells	316 coins pictured in catalog; Lot 35 1809 C1 VF25 Cohen plate coin; Lot 119 1796 S-96 F2 @ \$7 500				
2007	4/28/07	7:30 PM	Airport Hilton	St. Louis	MO	McCawley & Grellman 10% buyers fee	Chuck Heck, Denis Loring	M&G, Advance Graphics	R. Tetterhorst, Don Valenziano	411 Lot pictures in catalog, record 29 electrolyte coins mostly from Jules Reiver, 13 diff. NCs - 16 coins - a record # in Sale; 3 NCs in same sale - 1800 NC-3; Lot 93 1849 PR60 Cohen plate coin; Lot 154 1794 NC-11 VG7+ finest known; Lot 276 1800 NC-2 G6 Noyes plate coin, 2,000th Half Cent coins offered (lot 124). Record high of 74 lots not did not sell.				
Total												\$6,770,826	\$428	813
M&G 5/3/2007														
High - yellow														
Low - light blue														

EAC Sale Year 2007							
Highlights of 33rd EAC Sale							
Type	Group	Lot #	Year	Variety	Best Grade	Prior Grade	Change
A. Half Cents	Early	25	1795	C-5b	F15	F12	+3
		26	1795	C-6a	VF30	F15	+15
		27	1796	C-1	VG10 (electro)		
		39	1803	C-1	AU50	XF45	+5
		56	1805	C-3	F12	VG8	+4
	Middle	84	1834	C-1	BU63	AU58	+5
B. Large Cents	Early	107	1793	NC-1	BU63 (electro)		
		119	1793	NC-2	AG3 (electro)		
		120	1793	NC-3	VG7 (electro)		
		124	1793	S-14	XF45 (electro)		
		154	1794	NC-11	VG7		
		181	1797	S-121b	VF25	F15	+10
		183	1797	S-122	VG8	G5	+3
		190	1797	S-132	F15	F12	+3
		217	1798	S-162	VF20	VG8	+12
		219	1798	S-163	F15	F12	+3
		244	1798	S-180	F12	VG10	+2
		289	1801	NC-2	AG3		
		299	1802	S-238	VF25	VF20	+5
		309	1803	S-244	VF20	F12	+8
		314	1803	S-246	F12		
		328	1803	S-262	F15	F12	+3
		345	1810	S-282	VF35	VF20	+15
		1815	363	1815	S-292	XF40	
		382	1818	N-5	XF45	XF40	+5
		397	1825	N-8	AU50	XF40	+10
	Middle	399	1826	N-1	BU60	AU55	+5
		454	1838	N-9	BU62	AU58	+4
		474	1845	N-8	BU65	BU60	+5
		486	1847	N-31	VF35	VF30	+5
		487	1847	N-32	BU62	AU55	+7
		493	1848	N-23	AU58	AU55	+3
		499	1848	N-44	F12		
		503	1849	N-24	AU58	XF45	+13
		506	1850	N-24	XF45	VF30	+15
		514	1853	N-10	BU64	BU62	+2
	Late	522	1854	N-30	XF40	F15	+25
		529	1856	N-16	BU60	AU50	+10

* * * * *

EAC MEETING AT BALTIMORE, MARCH 24, 2006

Brett Dudek

On Saturday, March 24th Region 3 had our Mid-Atlantic Regional meeting at the Baltimore Convention Center. At 1:00 the meeting was called to order. As is traditional, an attendance sheet was passed around and all present introduced themselves and their collecting interests.

Afterward a quick hand count of those heading to the National Convention in St. Louis showed 11 members present, of the 30 on the sign-in sheet, were planning on attending.

A call for any new finds had Red Henry passing around an 1822 N-13 Large Cent that he had cherrypicked and several other interesting coppers were also shared. Mike Packard had an 1803 C-1 Half Cent that seemed to show some under-type, possibly a cut down large cent?, Alan Anthony pulled out an old hand-made nail with the head being an 1823 Woods Hibernia, I personally brought a 1809 C-2 Half Cent that was found nailed to a tree on the field at the Battle of Gettysburg, square nail still through the coin. A few of the topics we discussed were the upcoming 2007 convention in St. Louis and the possibility of a 2010 convention here in Annapolis, Maryland (which I am actively working on!). Although well-attended, it was a shorter than usual meeting, lasting a little more than half an hour, but several announcements were made and are listed as follows:

- All editions of *P-W* on CD should be in the mail with the July issue.
- Jon Lusk / Bill Noyes DVD Volume 2 should be available by the ANA and at a discount to those who own Volume 1.
- Greg Heim will be accepting eBay consignments in the near future; please contact him for details.

It was a great meeting! The following members and guests were in attendance:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| -Brett Dudek, Lutherville, MD | -Sue Remeikis, Lutherville, MD |
| -Red Henry, Winchester, VA | -Ed Fox, Spencerville, MD |
| -Susan Eckberg, Alexandria, VA | -Bill Eckberg, Alexandria, VA |
| -Alan Anthony, Leesburg, VA | -Neal Rothschild, Owings Mills, MD |
| -Leo Shane, Warminster, PA | -Bob Sherman, Frederick, MD |
| -Matt Sherman, Monrovia, MD | -Jack Mullen, Sterling, VA |
| -Logan Fritz, Ickesburg, PA | -Bob Fritz, Ickesburg, PA |
| -Mike Packard, Fairfax, VA | -Roger Siboni, San Francisco, CA |
| -David Palmer, Deer Park, NY | -Clement Shettino, Saugus, MA |
| -Charlie Rohrer, Lancaster, PA | -Doug Bird, Hermosa Beach, CA |
| -Greg Heim, South Plainfield, NJ | -Rosalind Heim, South Plainfield, NJ |
| -Greg Fitzgibbon, Manassas, VA | -Bill McMahon, Buffalo, NY |
| -Gregg Silvis, Newark, DE | -Jon Lusk, Ypsilanti, MI |
| -Alan Welty, Catonsville, MD | -Spencer Peck, Oldwick, NJ |
| -John Koeber, Reston, VA | -Craig S.?, Carlisle, PA |

(I apologize to Craig from Carlisle, but I couldn't make out your last name.)



RESULTS OF THE 2007 HALF CENT HAPPENING

Bill Eckberg

The 2007 Half Cent Happening was held on Thursday, April 26, 2007 at the Airport Hilton, St. Louis, MO. Thirty-five “exhibitors” signed in, though not all exhibited coins. Attendance was clearly at a record level. There were far more viewers than I had expected or had been prepared for. Expecting that attendance would be somewhat higher than the usual 25 or so, I printed up 40 score sheets, but we ran out, having several requests at the end that we could not meet. We received 18 completed score sheets back. Scoring was six points for a 1st place vote, five for a 2nd, four for 3rd, three for 4th, two for 5th and one for 6th. Coins belonging to 17 different exhibitors received votes as among the top six of at least one variety.

The number of coins exhibited was also high. There were 16 different examples of the R5 1795 C3 and 25 different examples of the 1804 C9. There were six examples of each of the two proofs. Thanks to all of those who exhibited their coins and to those who monitored tables, for their vigilance. I apologize to any who were unable to see all of the coins because of the crowd. On the other hand, the large crowd showed a very high level of interest in half cents, and that was wonderful.

The first variety was 1794 C9. Fourteen examples were exhibited, 11 of them receiving votes, and the top three were all UNC. Jim McGuigan’s led the pack, followed by Tett Tettenhorst’s and that of Russ Butcher. Of the circulated examples, Bill Eckberg’s took fourth place, followed by those of Ray Rouse, and Mike Spurlock. Coins from David Consolo, Rob Norwich, Jon Lusk, Chris McCawley and Scott McKernie also received votes.

The 1795 C3 is supposed to be R5+ and have a condition census down to VG. If so, we had about half of the known population on display, so I suspect the rarity is overestimated. However, the top 10 would indeed include several VG examples! Of the 16 coins displayed, all but three received votes as being in the top six. However, there was less competition at the top. All but three of the first and second place votes went to Tett and McGuigan, with Tett’s coin judged superior to McGuigan’s overall. Third place went to Butcher’s “A” coin, followed by the Greg Fitzgibbon, Rouse and Butcher “B” examples. The Eckberg, Don Valenziano, Spurlock, Bob Yuell, Jim Braswell and Ron Manley coins rounded out those receiving votes.

Fifteen of the 25 examples of 1804 C9 on display received votes with Tett’s two gem, red-and-brown UNCS (early and late die state) judged far better than any others. Three other coins received one first and two second-place votes, combined. Third place went to McGuigan’s LDS coin, followed by Eckberg’s LDS example, Ed Fuhrman’s and Eckberg’s EDS coins. Also receiving votes were McGuigan’s EDS coin, Spurlock’s, McCawley’s, Mike Packard’s three (EDS, unique IDS with a retained cud, and LDS), Bryan Yamasaki’s, Norwich’s, and Butcher’s.

Nine examples of the 1807 EDS were exhibited, with eight of them receiving votes as being in the top six. The clear winner was Butcher’s better coin (ex-Howard Barron and Bill Weber and illustrated on the cover of the 2007 convention brochure), followed by Butcher’s second coin and those of Tettenhorst, Eckberg, Rouse and Packard. The Norwich and Jamey Price examples also received votes.

Eighteen coins and one photo(!) made up the exhibits of the LDS 1807s. Tettenhorst’s better example was judged best by a substantial margin, followed by McGuigan’s, Tett’s other example

and Eckberg's. The George Trostel and Spurlock examples tied for 5th place. These were followed by Rouse's two examples and Packard's.

The 1826 C2, at R3+, by far the scarcest business strike half cent minted after 1811, was represented by 17 coins, four of which were technical UNC's (though one had been poorly recolored and another had a significant scratch on the bust). The Tettenhorst coin edged out that of McGuigan 79-76 in the closest competition of the evening for first place. The Spurlock, Butcher and Eckberg specimens were separated by a total of five points for third, fourth and fifth place. Butcher's second specimen (a lovely example with the 2-star break) placed sixth. McGuigan's second specimen (also with the 2-star break) and those of McCawley, Frank Goss, Rouse, Lusk and Packard completed the scoring.

The 1847 PROOF-only issues were represented by six originals and six restrikes. McGuigan's coins won both competitions, followed by Tettenhorst's examples. For the originals, the field was completed by Butcher's coin, two Braswell examples and that of Terry Hess. The restrikes, in a very close competition, were completed by Tettenhorst's second coin and those of Rouse, Braswell and McCawley.

Thanks once again to all who participated. In spite of the unexpected crowd, a great time was had by all, and I will be glad to take recommendations for the 2008 Half Cent Happening.

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2007 LARGE CENT HAPPENING RESULTS, ST. LOUIS

Dan Trollan

The Happening and the Convention this year in St. Louis turned out great. This was the best attendance I have seen yet at both. 60 members signed in the Happening sign-in sheet and as many as 75 were in the room at all times. WOW!

All still went very smoothly with the help of RALPH RUCKER at the sign-in table and the monitors at each table: JIM NEISWINTER, CHUCK HECK, BIM GANDER, PIERRE FRICKE, AL BOKA, RANDY SNYDER, BARRY KURIAN, TRINA HUSAK, AND WALT HUSAK. A big THANK-YOU to all who participated.

Here are the results:

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 1793 s-14 | 1. Dan Holmes (84) |
| | 2. Walt Husak (81) |
| | 3. Denis Loring (71) |
| | 4. Dan Trollan (51) |
| | 5. Bruce Reinoehl (20) |
| 1794 S-65 | 1. Tom Reynolds (64) |
| | 2. Dan Holmes (50) |
| | 3. tie Walt Husak (41) |
| | 3. tie Walt Husak (41) |
| | 5. Dan Holmes (25) |

- 1796 S-113 1. Walt Husak (94)
 2. Dan Holmes (74)
 3. Pierre Fricke (49)
 4. Ralph Rucker (41)
 5. Bruce Reinoehl (35)
- 1817 N-16 1. Jim Neiswinter (100) EXCELLENT!
 2. Ed Jasper (79)
 3. Al Boka (45)
 4. Bruce Reinoehl (43)
 5. Bill Woytasek (33)
- 1839 N-1 1. Dan Holmes. (57)
 2. Dan Holmes (48)
 3. Jim Neiswinter (43)
 4. Bruce Reinoehl (42)
 5. Dan Holmes (41)
- 1844 N-6 1. March Wells (63)
 2. Dan Holmes (50)
 3. tie Barry Kurian (42)
 3. tie Dan Holmes (42)
 5. Mark Switzer (18)

* * * * *

THE TWELVE SISTERS REUNION

Al Boka

“The Early American Cents are an intriguing family and they never die, fade or get broken. Like good jewelry they seem to transcend human mortality and to grow richer with age. There is a time-binding quality and a sense of intrinsic full value or full integrity in an Early Copper Cent.”

—Dr. William H. Sheldon

Recently, in St. Louis, there was a family reunion of twelve “sisters.” They were most likely all born on the same day in March of 1794 at 37-39 North Seventh Street in Philadelphia. They have not been together since that time and have weathered the years with varying degrees of wellness. They were accompanied by their custodians from residences in ten different states: California (2), New York (2), Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Nevada, Ohio and Oklahoma.



The Gang of Eleven: (back row) Dan Trollan, Dan Holmes, Al Boka, Bob Hoge, Scott Barrett, Walt Husak, Chuck Heck; (front row) Ralph Rucker, Bruce Reinoehl, Mike Lawrence and Bim Gander.

Interest in large cents, which arose in the 1850s, has led them to be considered by many as the touchstone of numismatics in the United States. Beginning in 1869, with the publication of Dr. Edward Maris' monograph, *VARIETIES OF THE COPPER ISSUES OF THE UNITED STATES' MINT IN THE YEAR 1794*, the study and collecting of early copper coins has grown in both popularity and intensity.

Over the ensuing 138 years there have been many collectors and specialists who have contributed to the knowledge base we now have regarding what are referred to as the early date (1793-1814), middle date (1816-1839), and late date (1840-1857) large cents. The efforts of Maris, Frossard, Hays, Andrews, Elder, Chapman, Newcomb, Sheldon, Breen, Borckardt, Wright, Noyes, Grellman, Boka and others, along with a myriad of fine, plated auction catalogs from the past 130+ years, have all contributed to the development of this specialized numismatic discipline.

At the beginning of United States Mint operations, in 1793, annealing technology for hardening the steel dies was somewhat lacking. As a result, many of the hand-tooled dies of the early years suffered under the irregularities and stress of the screw-press. Cracks and various other problems resulted and caused the frequent need to replace obverse, reverse, or both dies. Edge devices, which appeared beginning with the first cents in 1793, added yet a third dimension

for variance. Until the economically driven reduction in the weight and thickness of the copper cents, beginning December 27, 1795, the edges were often changed. Each time that a new die combination was formed a new “variety” emerged.



Reunion of the Twelve Sisters.

Since, as previously stated, the dies were hand-tooled there were always slight and sometimes not-so-slight differences between them, mainly in the hair and positioning of the individual letter and number devices. Additionally, in many cases, die breaks developed and progressed through several stages creating the interesting die states we study today. These visual differences are what drive the engine of early copper coin fascination.

The year 1794 is particularly bountiful for enthusiasts as at least 69 distinct varieties were created, 58 of which are considered collectible, as denoted by their “Sheldon” numbers, ranging from S-17a through S-72. Additionally there are 11 non-collectible varieties, so indicated by the prefix NC. These designators were established by Dr. William H. Sheldon in his monograph *EARLY AMERICAN CENTS* (1949) and have become the accepted standard, replacing those of Maris, Frossard, Doughty, Hays and Chapman who preceded him.

Of the 58 collectible 1794 varieties the most elusive is the S-37, of which only 17 are currently confirmed to exist. Charles Steigerwalt discovered the S-37 in 1900 in a group of coins purchased at a “NY Sale.” The coin was originally believed to be a Hays 44 (S-66), which has a similar distant placement of the 1 to the left of 794. The discovery coin of the “Steigerwalt”

variety is in very low grade with the details well worn. This allowed for it to go undetected for many years. The S-37 is sometimes referred to as the “Distant 1” variety.



The S-37 Display Case

For the 2007 EAC Convention, held in St. Louis, I attempted to gather as many as possible of the 17 known specimens of S-37 together into a single display case. Not since their manufacture in March of 1794 have so many of this very rare variety been together and, no doubt, never again will they meet. On display were 12 of the 17 traceable specimens including the finest-known and the discovery coin, both of which reside with the American Numismatic Society collection in New York City; part of a generous donation from George H. Clapp in January of 1947.

* * * * *

MY LIFE IN NUMISMATICS

Mark Borckardt

In June 1973, John Wright signed up a young 15-year old high school student to the roster of Early American Coppers. Neither John nor the young student could foresee the future on that long ago day when they met at the Indiana State Numismatic Association convention in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

I was born on October 13, 1957 in St. Paul, Minnesota and lived in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Ypsilanti, Michigan, and Findlay, Ohio. My family moved to Ohio when I was just seven years old, thus I consider Findlay to be my hometown.

My interest in coins actually began many years earlier. My father (Jack) was serving as a supply minister for a small Presbyterian church in Petersburg, Michigan after the regular minister had left. A member of the congregation gave me my first Red Book one Sunday morning. It was a 1964 issue of the *Guide Book* that I received in that year. I recall looking through pocket

change for Lincoln cents and eventually finding my first S-Mint penny. At the time, my interest in coins was slow to develop as a pre-teen. Our family soon moved from Ypsilanti to Findlay when my dad took a job as a Speech professor at Findlay College (now The University of Findlay). He remained in service to the Presbyterian Church on a part time basis, filling in for others as he had done for many years.

A few years later, I joined the Central Junior High School coin club and also the Blanchard Valley Coin Club in Findlay. At the Blanchard Valley Coin Club, I met several area collectors, including Roger Zorn who was instrumental in mentoring me during my earliest years. I was about 11 or 12 year old when I attended my first coin show, probably the local coin club affair sponsored by the Blanchard Valley club, although I don't recall for sure. Soon after, I convinced my dad to drive me to a more distant coin show, although his interest in coins had not become evident at the time. The second show that he took me to was an extremely important event. He purchased a 1955 Doubled Die cent for \$200, at a time when his annual salary was probably only \$10,000. This was a substantial purchase at the time, and he took a lot of heat from my mom when we got home. At the next show, he sold that penny for \$250, gave my mom the \$50 profit, and she never said another word. Just like that, my dad and I were "coin dealers."

Fort Findlay Coins was the name of our business, after the original fort that was established in Ohio during the War of 1812. Colonel James Findlay was the officer-in-charge, and the surrounding town, located about 50 miles south of Toledo, was named for him. We soon began traveling together to coin shows in the area, mostly smaller local and regional shows. It seems odd to mention the Aurora Farms Flea Market in Aurora, Ohio. Although I don't remember when we started attending this monthly event, it was another important event. It must have been about 1972, and my interest had not progressed past Lincoln cents and other similar items, until I bought an 1803 half cent in Aurora. The coin has long since gone on to others, but it is still vivid in my memory. I paid \$15 for this piece, a bargain even then for an AU 1803 C-3. It was my first early copper. At Aurora Farms, we also met a young man from Cleveland named Dave Berg. In June 1973, my dad and I attended the Indiana State Numismatic Association at Ft. Wayne. It was there that we met John Wright, Rod Burrell, and others. On the spot, John signed me up for membership in Early American Coppers. My interest was heightened, and I began reading about various aspects of numismatics whenever time permitted.

While my dad and I were attending coin shows in the region, my brother, James Carl or JC as he was known, was pursuing an interest in stamp collecting, but he was most involved in local political activities. While home during his sophomore year at George Washington University, JC passed away on December 25, 1974, a day I will never forget. As a minister, my dad was often asked to counsel others in similar circumstances, but did not receive any support from his associates in the Presbyterian Church when he needed it most. Ultimately, this led to his decision to resign his role as a minister.

My dad and I continued attending coin shows on a part time basis for several years while I was in high school and college. I had also become an avid bowler by high school, and spent considerable time at the local bowling center during those years. Bowling remains an important part of my life today. During college, I met a young lady named Mary Werth. She was an equestrian student, graduating with an Associates Degree in Equestrian Studies and a Bachelors Degree in History. We were married in July 1980 and are about to celebrate our 27th anniversary. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, I also served in the Army National Guard, leaving after six years with the rank of Specialist Fourth Class, the equivalent of a corporal.

Dave Berg was mentioned earlier, and he was my first numismatic employer. He was then based in Monroeville, Pennsylvania. After a short time working for Dave, Mary and I returned to Findlay where I worked briefly for Richard Howard of Howard's Coin Shop and also as a self-employed dealer in sports cards. At about the time that I left college for Pennsylvania my dad retired from his teaching career to devote his full time attention to the coin business. We opened a small coin shop in Findlay in 1983. The Collector's Cabinet was our shop, which we operated until the middle of 1988 when it (and most of the surrounding shops in our plaza) was lost to a fire. Although devastating at the time, it may actually have been the spark to my future. The two of us remained in the business, traveling to various coin shows, often splitting inventory to attend two different shows on a weekend. Although dad had left the ministry many years earlier, and he had retired from teaching in 1980, many people came to us after he died in 1999 and stated that he had provided them with considerable counseling. Perhaps he remained a minister all these years, only with a different congregation.

During much of the 1980s, I was traveling to about 40 coin shows each year. My son Matt, who was born in February 1983, once called me his favorite babysitter. At least I was his favorite! Mary and I also have twin daughters born in September 1987. It is hard to believe that these two young ladies have just completed their freshman year at Baylor University.

Early in 1989, while reading an issue of *Coin World*, I noticed a help wanted ad for a numismatic position with Bowers and Merena Galleries in New Hampshire. I had been to New Hampshire once before, during a family vacation many years earlier, and I had fond memories of the area. Off went my resume to Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, and a short time later I received a package that contained a numismatic test. There were about 60 multiple choice questions, with instructions to answer each without using any outside references. I returned the test and found out later that I had 59 correct answers. Ray Merena called a short time later and invited me to come to Wolfeboro for an interview. Apparently he did not believe that I could do so well on the test, so the first thing he did was put me in a room with a table and not a book in sight so that I could take another test. This time I only got 58 out of 60 correct so I asked about the two I missed, and politely informed Ray that he had an incorrect answer on his answer key for one of the two! He claimed that the 1824 large cent was the cent most often found with original red color, with 1818 as one of the other choices. The other question I missed was naming the auctioneer of the May 1922 James Ten Eyck sale, and now I know that it was B. Max Mehl. On my return for a second interview, I accepted a position with Bowers and Merena and my young family and I moved to New Hampshire.

A discussion of highlights during 16 years at Bowers and Merena has to include cataloging the early copper and silver coins in the Eliasberg Collection, the early gold coinage in the Bass Collection, and several years completing the manuscript for *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of Large Cents*. This reference received the EAC Literary Award and the Numismatic Literary Guild's Book of the Year award. In the early 1990s, I worked with Dave Bowers on his *Encyclopedia of Silver Dollars*, resulting in "BB" numbers for the early dollar varieties. I also contributed to several other books published during the 1990s through 2002. I also have to mention one amazing coin, a remarkable double denomination piece that was consigned to Bowers and Merena as a "1796 half cent." The half cent was actually a 1797 lettered edge piece, and the 1796 date was from a large cent that was later identified from the NC-7 dies! This coin provided the confirmation for the 1796 NC-7 large cent that was in the ANS and for many years considered to be a concoction. It turns out that the ANS coin is genuine! While at Bowers and

Merena, I was invited to participate in the 1996 ANS Coinage of the Americas Conference on large cents, and I presented a paper about the large cent restrikes.

Eventually, the offices for Bowers and Merena Galleries were moved to Mandeville, Louisiana. Dave Bowers and Ray Merena had sold the company to Collectors Universe of California, and were no longer associated. The Louisiana move resulted in a story that is almost too hard to believe. In fact, it is only because I was personally involved that I can truly appreciate the “Clockwork Miracle” that resulted in the recovery and authentication of the long missing Walton 1913 Liberty nickel. The book *Million Dollar Nickels* that I co-authored with Ray Knight and Paul Montgomery tells the whole story. A year later, Bowers and Merena was moved again, this time to California, and I moved to Dallas, Texas to join my present firm, Heritage Auctions. Of course, my family faithfully followed me from Ohio to New Hampshire, Louisiana, and now Texas, including my mom who lives close to us here in northeastern Texas.

When I arrived at Heritage, the Wes Rasmussen collection of large cents had already been consigned. In fact, it was displayed at the April 2004 EAC convention in San Diego. At the time of that convention, I was still on the staff of Bowers and Merena, and could hardly expect that I would be cataloging these coins a few weeks later. Several other important coins crossed my desk some time later, including two 1787 Brasher doubloons! Those are coins that I didn’t ever think I would see, let alone catalog. The Jules Reiver collection of early copper and silver coins, and the Bill Luebke collection of early dollars are other collections that rank among my highlights with Heritage.

One other event, so far, ranks among the most important numismatic events in my career. This past January, while attributing early half dollars consigned by an Indiana family, I discovered a new 1806 half dollar variety, now known as 1806 O-130. All active numismatists who study the early coinage dream of finding a new variety, but none expect to be so lucky.

During my years in New Hampshire, I served on the Board of Directors of the Southeast New Hampshire Bowling Association, and now, in Dallas, I serve a similar position with the Dallas Bowling Association. I enjoy these volunteer positions, and am delighted with my recent appointment as the Historian for Early American Coppers. I have good intentions of preparing regular articles in this role, and would especially like to profile other EAC members.

* * * * *

**MINUTES – 2007 EAC MEMBERSHIP MEETING.
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 AM CST by President Dan Holmes.

Due to the size of the crowd and the duration of the meeting, no individual introductions were made, but several notable groups (new EAC Convention attendees, C4 members, JRCS members) were asked to stand.

The minutes of the 2006 annual membership meeting were approved as published in *Penny-Wise*.

Public thanks – including a standing ovation – were extended to R. Tettenhorst and Marsha Birk as chairpeople for what many described as one of the best EAC Conventions ever. Don Valenziano and Jon Lusk were recognized and thanked for their work as co-chairs.

President Holmes updated the membership on the Saturday EAC Board Meeting including:

- _ A \$6,000 surplus for the year
- _ The naming of Mark Borckardt as EAC Historian
- _ The naming of Don Valenziano as new Region 5 Chairperson
- _ The naming of Russ Butcher as new Region 6 Chairperson

Scholarship money from the Garvin Fund is available, though no applications have yet been received.

The state of the treasury is good, with details published elsewhere.

The Editors Award was presented by Harry Salyards to Randy Snyder for his excellent work on the topic of American Colonization Society coppers. The EAC Literary Award was presented by Charles Davis to Bill Noyes and Jon Lusk for their new work *United States Large Cents 1793-94*.

The first-ever presentation of the EAC Lifetime Achievement Award was presented by President Dan Holmes to Treasurer John D. Wright, to the approval of all present and the great pleasure of Mabel Ann. A plaque and appropriate applause were given in unison.

Chuck Heck presented an update on the Garvin Fund, including the expenditure of \$250 from the fund to provide for two important 1794 Sheldon-37's to be transported from the ANS in New York to the St. Louis convention – the finest known and the discovery coin. The deadline for receipt of new applications for scholarships or research grants is September; look for information in an upcoming *Penny-Wise*.

Future EAC Conventions were announced:

May 7-11, 2008 in Dallas
May 15-19, 2009 in Cincinnati
and April 21-25, 2010 in Annapolis, Maryland

Davide Consolo has been named chair of the new “Sunshine Committee,” extending a personal touch to members and their families in case of loss, illness, or misfortune.

The new publication *EAC Guide to Early American Coppers* by former Historian Pete Smith was debuted at the convention. Copies will be mailed to all members with the May *Penny-Wise*.

Shawn Yancey will take over the Early Date Report from a penitent Chuck Heck.

By Board vote, a committee will be appointed to examine the issue of auction company-hosted Thursday night receptions, exploring a possible return to a more inclusive form of donations to support it vs. the current arrangement.

Bob Grellman reported the great success of the EAC Sale, realizing over \$400,000 from over 150 registered bidders and 70 mail bidders.

On Friday, April 27, 2007, Dr. Ralph Rucker became the 12th man to successfully complete the numbered Sheldon variety set. Congratulations!

The uniform voice of those present approved the invitation to the membership of JRCS to future EAC Conventions.

Thanks were given to Bob Hoge for bringing two 1794 S-37 cents (and himself) to our convention from the American Numismatic Society.

Steve Carr congratulated and thanked those who placed exhibits at this year's convention – an interesting and educational group of cases lined one wall of the bourse in memorable fashion.

Eighty-two (82) people were present for the meeting, which was swiftly hammered closed at 8:56 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kraljevich, EAC Secretary

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**ATTENDEES AT THE EAC ANNUAL MEETING, ST. LOUIS, SUNDAY APRIL 29,
2007**

John Wright, St. Joseph, MI
Grady Frisby, Memphis, TN
Phyllis Salyards, Hastings, NE
Darwin Palmer, Grantville, GA
Don Stoebner, Reastow, WI
Steve Synck, Lubbock, TX
Rich Weber, Houston, TX
DiAnna Moore, Northridge, CA
Gregg Silvis, Newark, DE
Dan Trollan, Durango, CO
Trina Husak, Long Beach, CA
Bob Kebler, St. Louis, MO
Ed Jasper, Dallas, TX
Ron Manley, Brentwood, TN
M. R. Butcher, Richardson, TX
Marsha Birk, Belleville, IL
Robert Norvich, Corvallis, OR
Eugene Sternlicht, Davie, FL
Tony Matthews, Genoa, OH
Sondra Beymer, Santa Rosa, CA
Doug Bird, Hermosa Beach, CA
Don Weathers, Myrtle Beach, SC
Don Valenziano, Frankfort, IL
Rod Widok, Barrington, IL
Chris McCawley, Frisco, TX
Bob Grellman, Longwood, FL
Denis Loring, Singer Island, FL
Brett Dudek, Lutherville, MD
Jack Robinson, Centreville, VA

Mabel Ann Wright, St. Joseph, MI
Harry Salyards, Hastings, NE
Mike Packard, Fairfax, VA
Jan Valentine, Napa, CA
March Wells, Juno Beach, FL
Richard Simonetti, Los Angeles, CA
Phil Moore, Northridge, CA
Mike Gebhardt, Chicago, IL
Jim Neiswinter, Franklin Square, NY
Scott Barrett, Bloomington, IN
Walter Husak, Burbank, CA
Greg Heim, South Plainfield, NJ
Jeff Noonan, Dousman, WI
Ray Rouse, Boca Raton, FL
Bill Eckberg, Alexandria, VA
R. Tettenhorst, St. Louis, MO
Dan Demeo, Torrance, CA
Bill Mitchell, Olympia, WA
Jack Beymer, Santa Rosa, CA
Tom Reynolds, Omaha, NE
Nick Gampietro, Buffalo, NY
Anne Weathers, Myrtle Beach, SC
Joan Widok, Barrington, IL
Mark Borckardt, Allen, TX
Anthony Terranova, New York, NY
Jon Lusk, Ypsilanti, MI
Donna Levin, Singer Island, FL
Charles Davis, Wenham, MA
Hue Robinson, Centreville, VA

Shawn Yancey, Springfield, MO
 Jack Conour, Maumee, OH
 Randy Snyder, Carmichael, CA
 David Johnson, Chattanooga, TN
 Sherry Rucker, Haskell, OK
 Chuck Heck, Hypoluxo, FL
 Frank Goss, Baltimore, MD
 David Consolo, Solon, OH
 Mark Switzer, Port Republic, MD

Steve Carr, Overland Park, KS
 Bim Gander, Escondido, CA
 Pierre Fricke, Atlanta, GA
 Ralph Rucker, Haskell, OK
 Al Boka, Las Vegas, NV
 Jamey Price, Canton, MI
 George Trostel, Southington, CT
 Carol Consolo, Solon, OH
 H. Craig Hamling, Florida, NY

(Members and Guests from 26 States!)

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CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of *Penny-Wise*. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the Membership Committee before the July issue of *P-W*, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati 45215.

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Member Number</u>
John Arthur	Jefferson City, MO	5540
Jerald Larson	East Moline, IL	5541
Stephen Tizzoni	Jersey City, NJ	5542
David L. Nathan	Princeton, NJ	5543
Richard G. Weiler	Bellingham, WA	5544
Raoul Mallalieu	Midland Park, NJ	5545
Mark Tegels	Maple Grove, MN	5546
Thomas Murphy	Monroe Township, NJ	5547
Raymond Komow	Chelmsford, MA	5548
Ryan R. Cook	Bowling Green, OH	5549
Wayne E. Wineland	Toledo, OH	5550
James H. Bushaw	Columbia, MO	5551
Tom Randell	Irvine, CA	5552
Ron McAdams	Tallapoosa, GA	5553
Thomas Wachtel	Geneseo, IL	5554
Larry Abbott	Beverly Hills, CA	5555
Jordan D. Heyne	Coldwater, OH	5556
Jim Humphrey	Sequim, WA	5557
Lou Santora	Rio Rancho, NM	5558
Jack Dooley	Newington, CT	5559
Jamie Yakes	Jackson, NJ	5560

Editor's Note: The Obituary Notice on Clifford Fellage, published on pages 56-57 of the March *Penny-Wise*, was written by **Tom Hart**.

MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

A Regional EAC meeting will be held on June 23, 2007, during the MidAmerican Coin Expo in Rosemont, Illinois, a Chicago suburb.

Kevin Foley, Convention Chairman, has reserved the Lincoln Room of the Doubletree Hotel at 1 PM for our meeting. It is across the street from the convention center.

Please attend and bring a friend. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Don Valenziano
(281) 469-1437

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THINK ABOUT IT

James Higby

I've always enjoyed reading and rereading the introductory material in *Copper Quotes by Robinson*. In those pages the author gives us a tremendous amount of information and ideas to ponder and digest, some of it in rather cryptic form. "Think about it. Think about it some more," he tells us. I often wonder if the answer will automatically pop into our individual and collective minds, in identical form and format, if we all stop what we are doing and devote undivided attention to a given issue. After all, each of us has had different experiences and interactions with copper, other copper collectors, and copper dealers.

This observation is borne out, at least in my view, by the contents of Bill Noyes's latest *magnum opus*, *United States Large Cents 1793-1794*. The condition census coins of each Sheldon and NC variety of these two dates, with a few exceptions (marked "we wish to photograph") are shown therein in full color, and enlarged to about one and one-half diameters. The rank, sharpness grade, net grade, and condition (choice-average plus-average-average minus-scudzy) are then given, along with at least some pedigree, for each. This book could serve as a wonderful textbook, albeit a bit pricey (\$205 postpaid from Charlie Davis) for a grading class, absent the ability to hold the coins in hand.

Paging through this work of art is like visiting a museum. Here in one place one can see the finest coins from the collections of top copper collectors. These are not the kind of coins one is going to see for sale at a coin show, whether it be the East Kumquat 3rd Sunday Monthly Coin-a-Rama or the annual ANA Convention. No, these are the trophy coins that have been in strong hands for a long time, and change hands only through the highest-of-powered auctions or the most intimate of private treaties. It takes more than just money to own coins of this caliber, it takes connections and the ability to know and go to where the coins are.

A number of things struck me as I paged through the book. First, even though these are condition census coins, I was surprised at how few are designated as "choice." As a former teacher, I suppose I could equate this latter designation with "A+", which is something that SHOULD be reserved for the tiny top fraction of one percent, whether of coins or of scholars.

No point deductions at all for these treasures! Even “average plus” was somewhat a rarity among these top coins. And there were many more “average minus” and “scudzy” coins than I would have thought.

SCUDZY! All sorts of horrible and grisly images come to mind: coins that are all black and gross, coins with awful rim bumps and gouges, coins which have been abrasively cleaned within an inch of their lives, coins that have been filed and drilled and punched and scalloped, coins that have had lettering or design altered, added, or removed, coins which have spent most of American history buried in acidic or alkaline ground. But none of these grim defects is apparent on any of these CC large cents, even the scudzy ones.

Try to imagine, if you can, where these coins were in 1857, just one and a half centuries ago, at the time when the redemption and exchange of coppers for flying eagle cents was in full swing. Their very nature causes them to have pedigrees that reach back to that era or even before. Since they are condition census coins now, it is very likely that they were CC coins then. Since they are in strong hands now, it is very likely that they were in strong hands then. Since there is a flurry of excitement when one of them comes on the market now, it is likely that there was a flurry of excitement when one of them came on the market then. Since they bring speculative prices now, it is likely that they brought speculative prices then (why, some of them no doubt brought as much as TWO DOLLARS, imagine!).

But, what of your collection and my collection? Speaking just for my own, and only for my own, it is likely that in 1857 the entire job lot that I have assembled, and which, for whatever reason, escaped being melted and made into Indian cents, was scattered among cigar boxes, desk drawers, and dealers’ junk boxes, none of them good enough to attract the attention of any one of the very small number of mid-19th century copper lovers. In fact, in their eyes, all my coins would have been considered “scudzy” by 1857 standards, even a couple AG3s that I own that are absolutely choice and defect-free!

Let’s move ahead a half-century to 1907 and assess the hobby as it was at that time. The coins that made it into Noyes’ book were now more coveted, as new copper enthusiasts had come aboard, with no concomitant increase in the supply of coppers. Some of these newer collectors might have had to settle for coins that just missed the Condition Census, rationalizing their purchases with the notion that “these are not perfect coins, nor necessarily the most desirable, but they’re choice coins in terms of what’s out there.” Meanwhile, I’ll wager that my coins continued to languish in their familiar surroundings, still deemed “scudzy” by the elite.

The numismatic hobby in 1957 was on the leading cusp of its boom. Coin clubs and coin shops were beginning to spring up all over the country, while demand for coin storage gave rise to cardboard albums with acetate slides by both Whitman and Library of Coins for all series, including half cents and large cents. By now it is quite possible that a few of my coins may have found their way into these albums, courtesy of *nouveau* collectors with the *nouveau* mindset of “filling holes.” All of a sudden, a few of “my” coins had begun to get some respect! In fact, I have purchased some of my coins out of such albums, none of which were anywhere near filled when I got to them, and probably not ever anywhere near filled.

My, how things have changed in just half a century. In 2007 we see ordinary coppers bringing unbelievable prices at auction (SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS PLUS JUICE for a VG-7 S-165, imagine!). Have we entered an era where the definitions of Choice, Average, and Scudzy need to be re-evaluated in terms of what is available on the market? Or are we forced to continue

the “once a castoff, always a castoff” mindset? Will my collection, begun in 1987 and still slowly growing, be viewed as desirable by the current and future crops of newcomers when it’s time for me to part with it? It’s something I think about a lot. What about yours? Think about it. Think about it some more.

* * * * *

INDUSTRY-CHANGING GRADING SERVICE FORMED

Dave Weygant and Spencer Peck

For too long we have allowed powerful unseen forces to dictate the grade of Our coins. The 70-point Sheldon grading system is imprecise, obsolete and represents the past. We must Think Big. Out with Sheldon. Out with the proposed 100-point grading scale. In with UGrade: a revolutionary new concept for a new century. After all, it’s Your money; it should be Your grade.

With UGrade You will get choice, not chance. Never be disappointed again. No more improperly cleaned. No more environmental damage. No more body bags. At last, the little guy will be heard. At UGrade Your satisfaction is our goal. At UGrade the customer is always right. At UGrade You will receive coins the way You like them.

UGrade, conceived by forward looking industry leaders in a flash of blinding insight, will feature a 1000 point millennium grading scale to allow for even more opportunities to haggle over the grade of a given coin. Because a coin has three sides, UGrade will assign the numerical grade You desire to the obverse, reverse and edge of Your coin for even greater grading precision. UGrade will provide grades the way You like them. Because all coins are not mint state, UGrade will adopt a Business Strike and Proof Strike nomenclature to be abbreviated as “BS” and “PS.” Under the new system, the coins grade will appear in the following format: BS: 747/816/912, *etc.* with the desired suffixes following. Now we will finally have grading precision suitable for the 21st century.

UGrade will service any coin ever made with encasements ranging from the diminutive “El Pequeño” for the Indian 1/16 Rupee, to the massive “El Gordo” specifically engineered for the stone money of the Island of Yap. The “El Gordo” encasement will also feature built-in ring bolts to facilitate movement by chain hoist or portable derrick.

UGrade will have a sliding fee scale based on coin value and grade desired. An extra fee will be applied for such super designations as PQ, PL, Star, CC and Registry Set. If you have a grading problem, UGrade has a solution. If you’ve got the money, honey, we’ve got the slab. You’ll have it made with UGrade.

Conceived and Submitted by Spence and Dave’s Traveling Numismatic Museum; most recently based in Atlanta, GA.

April 1, 2007

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FAKE “CERTIFIED” 1804 CENT SELLS ON EBAY

Harry E. Salyards

Henry Hettger forwarded this eBay posting to me back on the date of sale, March 20. As Henry noted, the reverse is clearly *not* that of the Sheldon-266. S-260, indeed, looks like a good bet. And while the illustration is hardly optimal for showing such three-dimensional detail, the area around the “4” in the date has something of a “scooped out” look, similar to that seen on many an “1804” dollar alteration. The only other possibility, of course, is that of a new die marriage. As such, the coin would be worth a not-so-small fortune. Alas, it only set its buyer back the better part of three grand – pretty expensive “tuition,” nonetheless!



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MAKING SENSE

John D. Wright

This is another busy and fascinating year. Enough well-known events happened this year that you will likely guess the year before we get to the coinage section.

Hawaii's Parker Ranch has its beginnings in a small parcel of land at the base of Mauna Kea volcano. This cattle ranch today is the largest in the world.

This year Liberia is proclaimed as an independent republic. Liberia had been colonized since 1821 by U.S. freedmen returned to Africa by the American Colonization Society. The Society has decided to free the colony from its dependence on American aid.

Austrian physician Ignaz Semmelweis discovers the root cause of “childbed fever” as maternal mortality is called. Medical students are coming directly from the dissecting rooms to

the delivery rooms. A rigorously enforced new policy of hand washing sees maternal mortality plummet. Other areas also benefit from this new policy, which will take over a decade to spread worldwide.

Composer and conductor Felix Mendelssohn dies of a stroke at age 38. He is the greatest of the 19th century composers, judged then and since as “the 19th century Mozart.”

Paris jeweler Francois Cartier opens a small shop that will grow into a worldwide empire.

A new British Museum opens this year to replace the Montague House Museum that opened in 1759.

This year Karl Marx and Frederick Engels have been hired by London’s newly-formed “Communist League” to write *The Communist Manifesto*.

An influenza outbreak in London will claim 15,000 lives this year and next.

This year sees more than 200,000 Irish emigrants, mostly to America. Most arrive in small ships on voyages lasting up to eight weeks. Many do not survive the voyage.

A great immigration from the Netherlands to the U.S. also occurs this year. The towns of Holland and Zeeland, Michigan are founded this year on Lake Michigan by a shipload of Dutch settlers. This area is yet today more Dutch than much of the Netherlands.

A ship fire aboard the *Phoenix* on Lake Michigan kills 200 Dutch immigrants.

Writings of this year include Prescott’s *History of the Conquest of Peru* (in two volumes), British novels *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*, Herman Melville’s *Omoo*, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s *Evangeline*, and the opera *Macbeth* with music by Giuseppe Verdi.

Newspapers begun this year include the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* and the Chicago *Daily Tribune*. New York’s 400,000 people are served by sixteen daily newspapers.

Cities incorporated this year from earlier settlements include Atlanta and Minneapolis.

Medical developments of this year in the U.S. include the use of ether as an anesthetic and the founding of the American Medical Association (AMA).

Colleges started this year include the New York Academy of Medicine, City College of New York, Iowa State University, Lawrence College, and the University of Louisiana.

Taylor University is chartered this year in Fort Wayne, Indiana as Fort Wayne Female College. The college will be renamed when it moves to Upland, Indiana in 1893.

Hartford merchant Gerhon Fox opens a dry goods store offering free delivery by wheelbarrow. His emporium is today’s G Fox Department Store.

The first ring donuts are introduced this year by a 15-year-old baker’s apprentice in Camden, Maine. Hanson Gregory has addressed the problem of ‘soggy centers’ by punching them out before frying.

Two nostrums introduced this year are Hostettters Stomach Bitters (claimed to cure nearly everything) and Smith Brothers Cough Drops (claimed to cure the common cough). Though both make their purveyors rich, only the latter is still sold.

This year Cyrus McCormick builds in Chicago a three-story factory for reapers. Obed Hussey has moved his manufactory to Baltimore, and John Deere builds a factory at Moline IL.

The first adhesive U.S. postage stamps are introduced this year. The Franklin-portrait 5¢ stamp will carry a one-page letter up to 300 miles, while the Washington-portrait 10¢ will carry two pages up to 300 miles or one page to anywhere in the country.

Nitroglycerin is discovered this year by Italian chemist Ascanio Sobrero. This extremely sensitive and highly explosive liquid will be soaked into sawdust-filled tubes to make ‘dynamite’, used primarily for blasting rock. It will also be used as medicine to relieve the symptoms of *angina pectoris*.

Late this fall a wagon train bound for northern California will be trapped in the Sierras by high snow. Half of the Donner party will freeze or starve to death. The others will survive on the flesh of their dead comrades.

A wagon road is opened from Santa Fe to San Diego by the Mormon Battalion under LtC Philip Cooke. The “Santa Fe Trail” will soon be traveled by thousands of California-bound émigrés.

Fur trader Charles Bent is appointed Governor of New Mexico Territory. His house in Taos is invaded by a band of Mexicans and Pueblo Indians who kill with arrows all thirteen men in the compound, leaving the women and children untouched. The U.S. Army retaliates with howitzers and hand grenades, killing 150 and wounding 300 Pueblos holed up in a church.

Brigham Young’s band of 15,000 Mormons are mostly in temporary quarters at Council Bluffs. This year the vanguard of 143 Mormons reach the Great Salt Lake in Mexican Territory. Young declares “This is the place,” and names the place “The State of Deseret.” Young orders that the avenues for his city will be made wide enough for a wagon and four oxen to make a U-turn. He then returns to Council Bluffs to bring the rest of his band to Deseret, beyond the limits of the United States. Within months Mexico will be forced to cede this land to the U.S.

The last pro-Mexican forces in California surrender, completing the U.S. conquest of California.

United States troops launch a coastal invasion of Mexico at Vera Cruz and march on Mexico City. The last battle of this war is fought at Chapultepec on the outskirts of Mexico City. This fortress, once the home of an Aztec princess and dubbed by the U.S. Marines as the “Halls of Montezuma,” is the site of the Mexican National Military Academy. The San Patricios suffer heavy casualties, with most of the few survivors being captured. These are quickly court-martialed and fifty are sentenced to be hanged, standing en-noosed on wagons under gallows until the U.S. flag is seen hoisted above the Royal Palace. When the flag goes up, the carts are driven away and the prisoners swing. John Riley and fifteen others are each given fifty lashes. The survivors from this brutal lashing are branded on the face with a large ‘D’ (for Deserter) and are released, never again to set foot on U.S. soil. As the U.S. Marines now march unopposed into Mexico City, the war is effectively over. The U.S. has dealt with its neighbor as it had promised, calling Mexican nationals “reptiles in the path of democracy, who must either crawl or be crushed.” The San Patricios are honored in Ireland and in Mexico each September 12, and on Saint Patrick’s Day. Their only honor in the U.S. is in the San Francisco St. Pat’s parade.

This shameful chapter of American history occurred in 1847. During this year in which the U.S. gained a third of its current (48-state) size, (part by agreement with Britain, and most by conquest from Mexico), the four U.S. mints were producing about 13 million coins, most of them being cents or half dollars. The Proof-only half cents bearing this date were likely made a

decade or more later. Besides these, a “one keneta” piece was struck at a private mint in Massachusetts for the Kingdom of Hawaii (today the 50th US state). That copper coin, the size of a U.S. large cent, is now a rare collector’s item, with 100,000 struck and most of them destroyed.

Another large cent sized copper coin of 1847 is the “Liberian” piece. This beautiful coin has a French style Miss Liberty wearing a *pileus* with a single star on it. The reverse has a single palm tree with the ocean behind. This also comes as a “Two Cent” coin in copper, a bit bigger than a half dollar.

Of the nine federally struck denominations, I find only two to be worthy of special note. The first of these is the 1847 half dollar with overdate 7/6. Breen (1988) reported one Proof and 10-12 business strikes known to him. These are very expensive items when they (infrequently) come up.

The other noteworthy 1847 U.S. coin is a large cent. Naturally, I collect those so I get to choose what is “noteworthy”. Several of the 1847 cent dies have doubled digits in the date. Since dates on U.S. coinage dies were imparted with a multi-digit logotype (usually all four digits on a single punch), any doubling is usually a whole-date doubling. The most obvious of these is N-1 (common), which has the whole date boldly doubled to the lower left of each digit. But more fascinating is the N-2 (also common), which has only the final ‘7’ boldly doubled above. Since the profile of the date-digits are tapered, a less-deep punch looks like a smaller font. This coin is listed separately in the Red Book as “1847 over small 7.” It is easy to find from a specialist at a slight premium, or it can be found with a diligent search without paying a premium.

And THAT is where the fun is – in the FINDING, not in the HAVING. So ENJOY our hobby! Go find yourself an 1847 over small 7 cent. Maybe you can even turn up an 1847 keneta or an 1847 ‘pattern’ Liberian cent or two cent!

* * * * *

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nicholas Forster writes,

I was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Clifford Fellage in 2006 in the pages of the March *P-W*. He was a truly wonderful man who helped a novice Brit complete his Red Book Collection of Middle and Late Dates back in the mid nineties and beyond. I especially remember bringing in the New Millennium with him *via* telephone trying to describe the scenes here in London to him and talking copper in between the festivities. He was eagerly awaiting the event in Times Square still five hours or so away.

His love of Conder Tokens shone through as he asked if I could get him a map of England and its counties from the period. Duty bound, I went to the Public Records Office in London and found him one. He was going to put it on his List to sell to any interested parties.

I also recall his leaving for California from Connecticut when he retired, and telling me his only means of protection along the long drive across the States was a hammer. He added a dry laugh when he said it. A lovely man whom I enjoyed talking with and dealing with for the ten years we

were distant Copper Buddies. Unfortunately we lost contact some time after his move. Recently, I was trying to get back in touch with him, but alas, that is not going to happen now. I still have his old Sales Lists, which I will keep in memory of an honest and charming man.

Rest In Peace, Clifford.

* * * * *

Bryan and Nancy Yamasaki write,

My wife, Nancy, and I would like to thank the 2007 Convention chairmen, Tett Tettenhorst, Jon Lusk, and Don Valenziano, for putting together an absolutely incredible show. The tour of the Newman Museum, meeting Mr. Newman himself, and the accompanying dinner were first-class affairs! This will be a very hard act to follow!

Thanks are also due to the people who organized and/or presented seminars, exhibits, and happenings: Steve Carr, Dan Trollan and the “Boyz of ’94,” Bill Eckberg, Chuck Heck, Dan Holmes, and Brad Karoleff (our apologies, if any were left out).

It was a real thrill to finally meet so many people that we had only read about, as well as those we had met before. EAC has so many nice and knowledgeable people within its membership. We especially enjoyed conversations with Jon Warshawsky, Bim Gander, John Kraljevich, Walt Husak (and his daughter, Trina), Bill Maryott, Dan Demeo, Bill Noyes, Tom Reynolds, Dan Trollan, Jim Neiswinter, Jim McGuigan, Doug Bird, Bob Yuell, Bob Grellman, and John Wright.

Please extend our congratulations to the EAC principals. Thank you!

* * * * *

Jon Warshawsky writes,

Just received my *P-W*, and I was skimming the articles whilst at work. Please pass along kudos to James Higby for his account of his shopping trip in downtown Chicago. I read it through, intently, and enjoyed it.

Interestingly – to me, anyway – I remember my grandfather buying me a 1914-D for my 13th birthday and allowing me to fill that unattainable hole in my Whitman board. Or at least that was the plan!

I had read a couple of books about coin storage by that time, so I bought some of those Capital snap-together plastic 2x2 holders and kept that ’14-D properly. It was both a high and a low. Here I had received what for me was an incredible rarity, and in F-VF grade, but it was too nice to stick in some sulfur-laced pennyboard. Eventually, I decided to keep all my nicer Lincolns in 2x2s, and thus the wonderful and naïve era of sticking pennies in a board was ended. I became a numismatist, not a collector, with all the good and bad of that. I guess you can't go back!

FROM THE INTERNET

Gene Anderson

NEW MEMBERS

Joining since our last report are **Tom Sessa, Ellwood Cutler, Mark Cadden, Robert Padula,** and **William Abel**. Region 8 now has 415 active members and plenty of room for more copper nuts.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Webmaster **Craig Hamling** reported that our website crashed temporarily in early March but is now back up and running. Among other things on the site you will find back issues of *Penny-Wise*.

Robert Dunfield reported that he had found an 1801 NC2 (an R7 coin). The coin is BS1 and discovered in a group of about 100 foreign coins purchased on eBay. **Red Henry** congratulated Robert on his find. Red's rarest pick was a 1796 NC3 (an R6 coin) several years ago. Unattributed rarities seem to be harder and harder to find. However, Red recently found an 1822 N13 unattributed at a coin show. Is this coin still a R5+?

Frank Wilkinson, responding to an earlier question, said that modern coins are made with cuds and cracks. He found a California quarter with a rim break on the reverse from 5:30 to 6:30. He also found a 1984 cent with a rim break on the obverse from 1:30 to 4:00.

Chuck Hall provided a comparison of the auction prices for middle date cents in the Goldberg Pre-Long Beach sale and the latest edition of CQR. He couldn't resist adding a little subjective comment on some items. The comparison can be found on the EAC website.

Craig Hamling reported that he has a taker to his challenge for a date set whist match. The match will take place during EAC 2007.

Red Henry commented on the latest edition of "Common Cents" put out by Joe Gladkowsik. It looks really good. The 70-page report lists and ranks 59 collections of late-date cents in great detail. It also has other information and color photos of some very interesting cents. If you collect late-date cents you should join the report by contacting Joe at latedates@comcast.net. **Lynn Edwards** also had kudos for Joe's latest edition.

Brett Dudek reported on a recent Region 3 meeting in Baltimore. About 30 people attended.

Robert Dunfield noted what a beautiful backdrop Newcomb's reference makes for showing early coppers. This was in response to an anonymous picture that was posted. How about more such pictures and create a Region 8 copper calendar?

Henry Hettger reported a dangerous 1804 large cent forgery in an eBay auction (#170092088293). The coin is in a PCGS holder and graded F12 with perfect dies. The seller indicated that the coin was properly rotated, and the date does not look altered. The reverse is incorrect for 1804 being the reverse for an 1803 S260. The obverse has a missing serif on the lower right of the T in LIBERTY. PCGS indicated the certification number for the date and grade was correct, but they will not discuss a coin unless you have it in hand. From all indications it is an altered 1803 S260.

Gerald Buckmaster discussed a Yahoo! group dedicated to early copper. Many members are EAC members. It can be located by going to the Yahoo! groups page.

Ken Sultana stated that most of the dealers he spoke to didn't care for EAC grading – *i.e.*, net grading. They felt the sharpness was the sharpness and that assigned numerical grades should not be changed because of condition problems. The price of the coin is negotiated up or down based on the condition and overall eye appeal. **Pierre Fricke** replied that he learned how important net grading was when he went to sell his coins. The buyers weren't interested in the problem coins except at very steep discounts or unless they were rare. Sellers hate net grading while buyers love it. Pierre paid his tuition long ago and only buys coins using the grading that the conservative buyers will use when he goes to sell.

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

Ray Williams asked about the EAC Library contents move to the ANA Library. How is the material accessed? Is it being kept intact? Can an EAC member borrow from it without being an ANA member? Was there a final listing of the library contents made before it was sent to the ANA? **Michael Schmidt** recalls that the EAC library would be kept separate and EAC members would be able to borrow items from it even if they were not members of the ANA. A final listing of the library contents was posted in *Penny-Wise*. **Charles Davis** responded by saying that the only way the ANA will accept a club's library is if comes with no strings attached, and if it is to be merged into their holdings. There is not room to do otherwise. A former EAC book would be borrowed like any other ANA book.

Jamey Price asked about the missing year 2001 in the Region 8 archives. **Mark Switzer** says the 2001 newsletters still exist on his old computer. They need to be organized and sent to the webmaster.

Michael Schmidt asked if Chuck Heck was still doing the early date census.

Mike Gebhardt asked if anyone had a copy of the 1976 EAC Sale prices realized list. **John Wright** provided a copy.

Al Brandon asked for help determining the die state of an 1809 C6 half cent. Pictures are on the EAC website.

Et tu Brute? **Ken Sultana** asked about the use of Roman numerals on each issue of *Penny-Wise*. The January issue was listed as Volume XXXXI. His early education makes him think that there should not be four of the same symbol in a row. Four would be IV not IIII, nine would be IX not XIII, and twenty-nine would be XXIX not XXVIII. He suggests the volume number be XLI which means 50 less 10 plus 1. **Bill Eckberg** replied that when he was in school (back when Roman numerals were all we had), both XXXXI and XLI were considered correct though most people have always used the form that required fewer letters. **Arno Safran** wrote that Ken should check out the Carolus IIII of Spain portrait silver 8 reales coinage (and minors) dating from 1790 to 1808. These coins were struck at various Latin America mints and cost a fraction of our Bust dollars. They were granted legal tender status in 1834 though they circulated in the U.S. long before that. They were demonetized by the Coinage Act of 1857. **Dennis Fuoss** congratulated Ken about his observation skills. Dennis also pointed out this conversion tool http://www.novaroma.org/via_romana/numbers.html. **Tom Verrill** disagreed with Ken saying his George III 1821 sixpence and William III 1834 shilling were contemporary with EAC coinage. **John Whitney** noted that Roman numeral IIII usage is accepted instead of Roman

numeral IV when clocks and watches use Roman numerals. John thinks the use of Roman numerals is too archaic for today. **Gene Anderson** wrote that Ken's suggestion was fine, but even the Romans didn't always follow that convention. Anyone who collects the legionary denarii of Marc Antony knows that IIII was used for the number four on more than one occasion. **Jon Lusk** said he too tripped over XXXX for last year and XXXXI for this year while he was working on the forthcoming PW on CD. Jon has made progress and expects the *Penny-Wise* CD to be mailed with the July issue.

Tom Vranesic wrote that he recently purchased an S-253 that has none of the obverse and reverse cracks that later develop on this variety. How rare is this die state? *Penny Whimsy* states that examples without the crack are rare and were not known to Newcomb when his monograph was written. **Bill Maryott** responded that he has 19 examples in his database, but he thinks they are representative of the population. He has one with the obverse cud, 15 with the reverse die break, and 3 with no die breaks. He does not have one with both obverse and reverse die breaks.

Ken Sultana asked for feedback on the conditioning of copper coins. He has come across writings indicating the "application of a light coat of oil" as a conditioner. Is this acceptable, good, or bad? What type of oil? Can you put the coin in a cardboard 2 x 2 holder after treatment? Should any verdigris or other gunk be removed first? How is that accomplished? Cleaned coins seem to be frowned upon in the numismatic realm. What about museum type conservation? Why not coins properly re-toned? Could EAC produce brochures discussing the various types of copper to send to clubs and show/bourse chairmen for placement at tables? The benefits of collecting copper and joining EAC could be included.

Kim Greeman read an article on early quarters that stated that Joseph Wright produced the first quarter pattern (Judd 12 and 13) in 1792. The reverse featured an eagle perched on the top portion of a globe with the inscription United States of America. Encircling the reverse inscription was a border of 87 tiny stars. Since it wasn't 94 stars like S-48, she knows the same die was not reused. But she is wondering about the punch. Wright was hired as a mint employee in August 1793 whereupon he engraved the Liberty Cap die punches. Yellow fever would kill him in September 1793. Therefore Wright did not make any 1794 dies. But was his punch ever used for that purpose? Historians attribute the early 1794 cents (including the S-48) to Robert Scot using Wright's die punches. Therefore, Scot had access to Wright's tools. Breen's early cent book quotes Pete Smith as saying the stars on the S-48 are smaller, differently shaped, and without the broken star tip observed on Judd 12. Yet, Breen also quotes another source speculating a die prepared with a border of stars was re-used in 1794. Has anyone ever compared enlarged photographic overlays of the star die-punch on these two numismatic rarities to satisfactorily resolve this numismatic mystery?

Robert Dunfield said that he has an 1840 that does not appear to conform to the known varieties. This example has some unusual characteristics, which do not fit the varieties which it is most similar to and hopefully someone will be able to help. See the pictures on the EAC website: <http://www.eacs.org/ForMembersOnly/Region8/2007/1840cent.jpg>

This cent has the DRN of N1 and N12, yet it doesn't share many of the diagnostics known for these varieties. It is a relatively clean cent, with sharpness of about Very Fine or a bit better.

For the obverse, Robert has noted the following anomalies:

1. There does not appear to be a clearly defined lump on the leading edge of the coronet, although there is a shadow of something where the lump should be.
2. There is a fine line under the tip of the bust and above the 8; to between the 1 and 8. This curved line has the same curvature of both the bottom of the front of the bust and of the curl over the date. It appears that it is either an outline of one of these two, because the line shares some of the characteristics of both. This line can be seen in one image, although it is faint. There is a remote possibility that it could be the result of struck through debris, but the curvature is so similar that it is unlikely.
3. LIBERTY: There is a lump between B & E and strong lines under the R. The strongest line is under the left upright of the R and points down to the left. There is some doubling to this letter and it has the appearance of being initially leaning to the left and then corrected. There is a strong line under the right pendant of the T, which connects the left top to bottom. There is a lump on the right side of the Y. There are many other small lumps within the letters, giving the appearance that some of them may have been re-cut. None of these lines or lumps is crud or foreign material.
4. There doesn't appear to be extra points to star # 13.

For the reverse:

1. There is a significant spike on the inside of the upright of the F (OF). This spike is strong and can be seen without magnification. It nearly connects the upright to the inside top vertical serif of this F. Additionally, there is a smaller spike on the same side but farther down towards the bottom of the letter. I have checked images of CC level coins of the small date without whole varieties and this spike does not appear on any of them, and it is prominent.
2. There is a short line pointing up from the left top of E (AMERICA). Lines which may appear on EDS of both N1 and N12 are not present on this coin.
3. The top of the ribbon end has two significant spikes, one pointing up to left from the top towards the first lower leaf on the left and another on the bottom of the ribbon which points down to left. The one on the bottom has what looks like a graver's scratch that extends it a short distance into the field.

All in all, this should be an N1, as there appears to be some re-cutting present on the base of the 8, but this looks quite different than what normally appears on N1a. It may be a very select ding in the bottom of that number, but it follows the curve of the bottom of the 8, which is most unusual. The curved line under the bust; the lack of diagnostics of known varieties; the spikes on the reverse...all these variances make the attribution quite difficult. If anyone can help with this one, he would be grateful.



SWAPS AND SALES

EAC'ers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. Ads up to twelve lines are free. ADS LARGER THAN 12 LINES MUST BE SUBMITTED CAMERA-READY, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. Due to increased production costs, effective immediately, a full page ad is \$100. Graphic and halftone setup is an *additional* \$60 per page. One-third page is \$35. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens. Deadline for material to appear in the July 2007, issue is June 30, 2007. All ads must include the individual membership number of a current member in good standing. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Harry E. Salyards, 606 North Minnesota Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901.

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JOHN D. WRIGHT, EAC #7

What others think of "The CENT Book":

MARK KLEIN: The CENT Book is all I'd dreamed it could be and more. Reading it is like enjoying a personal chat with John.

RICHARD STRILEY: Being a novice on large cents I found a number of other books confusing and hard to read. I have Adams, Breen, Grellman, Newcomb, Noyes, and Sheldon, but yours is the best.

JULES REIVER: Your book is wonderful. This is the first coin book I have ever seen which can be used to attribute coins without having my coins available for checking. Your pictures are so sharp that they make attributing an absolute pleasure.

SEE FOR YOURSELF – BUY YOUR OWN. See "The CENT Book" ad in this section.

* * * * *

CHARLES DAVIS, EAC #142

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Wenham, MA 01984

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Encyclopedia of U.S. Large Cents S-1 to S-91

\$65 postpaid.

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MABEL ANN WRIGHT, EAC #78

What others think of "The CENT Book":

WARREN LAPP: I can see now why it took so long to get it into print. John didn't leave out a thing. I am amazed at the photos. The book is perfect in every way, which is what I would expect from JDW.

HERB SILBERMAN: Your book is beautiful! I congratulate you on the content.

TONY CARLOTTO: The CENT Book is fantastic. The year-by-year history is a very nice touch and keeps you reading.

SEE FOR YOURSELF – BUY YOUR OWN. See "The CENT Book" ad in this section.

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ROD BURRESS, EAC #109

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Cincinnati, OH 45215

For Sale: #4 Soft Jeweler's Brush \$8.50 each.
Jeweler's Tissue, 4 x 4 inch sheets: box of 1000, \$7.50; package of 250, \$2.50.
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Wooden stick Q-tips: \$4.50 per 500, \$8.50 per 1000.
Blue Ribbon Coin Conditioner, 2 oz. bottle \$8.00
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Heavy Duty 28 lb. Kraft 2 x 2 coin envelopes, in gray, white, or brown:
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BILL NOYES, EAC #363

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Monument Beach, MA 02553

Penny Prices **new** Second Edition (2005) is now available for **\$39** postpaid.

The Official Condition Census for U.S. Large Cents **new** 320+ pages large format is **\$79** postpaid

Note: This is similar to the "Brown Book" issued in 1999, but covers 1793-1839 with more CC entries per variety. Combines both the Noyes and Bland work for the past 30 years.

* * * * *

TOM REYNOLDS, EAC #222 P.O. Box 390001 Omaha, NE 68139 (402) 895-3065
 1797 S-137 R2 F15 \$1400 Brown with smooth surfaces. The 9 and LIBERTY are a little weak. Removed from a PCGS holder graded VF25. A+
 1803 S-255 R1 VF25+ \$1250 Medium brown with smooth surfaces. Slightly sharper with some very minor marks. A+
 1804 S-266a R4+ G4 \$2000 Medium brown with smooth surfaces. Some striking weakness at the bottom of the date and the top of the reverse. No cuds. A+
 1812 S-290 R1 VF30 \$2500 Small Date. Brown with smooth, glossy surfaces. Slightly sharper with some very minor marks. Removed from a PCGS holder graded XF40. A+
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HENRY T. HETTGER, EAC #2349 P.O. Box 2018 Arlington, VA 22202
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 1817 N-4, VF-35, ANACS \$575.
 1820 N-9, AU-50 BN, EAC:35 \$475.
 1829 N-2, PCGS AU-58 \$595.
 1830 N-6, Small Letters Reverse. AU-50 ANACS, Cleaned, chocolate brown, but retoned; now immaculate, ex-Superior as sharpness approaching AU-50, substantial orange tones, Net VF-35. Looks much better today! The Corrado EF-45 net VF-35 realized \$6900 recently. This example, a similar value, for only \$3950.
 1831 N-3, MS-63 BN, mottled brown tones on obverse, chocolate reverse \$485.
Postage: 1797, 1817, 1820, 1829, 1831: \$10. 1830: \$20.

* * * * *

DAVID JOHNSON, EAC #5235 213 Brookwood Drive Chattanooga, TN 37411
dave4dawg@aol.com 423-240-4277

1794 S-20b R4+ VG 8 Net 6 Average, minor even porosity, some pitting at cap and
bust tip \$3,200
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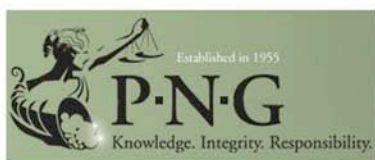
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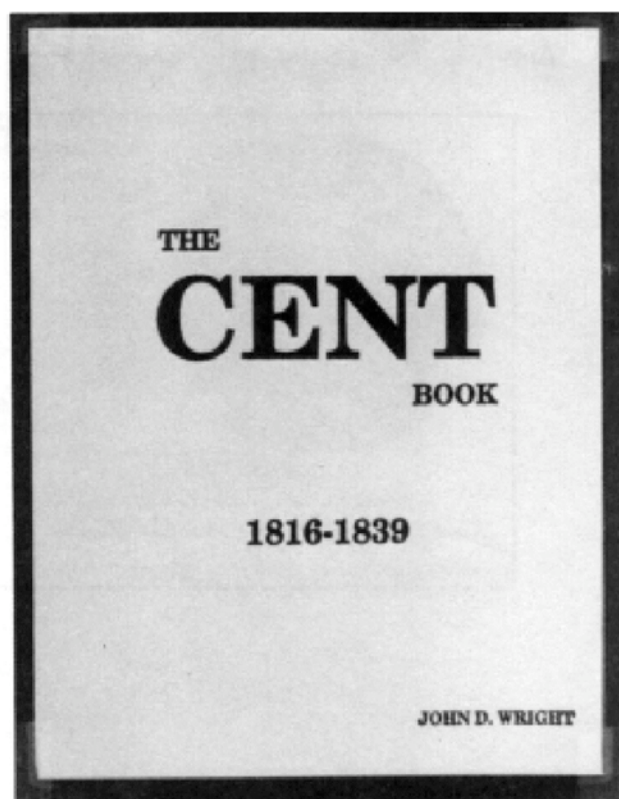
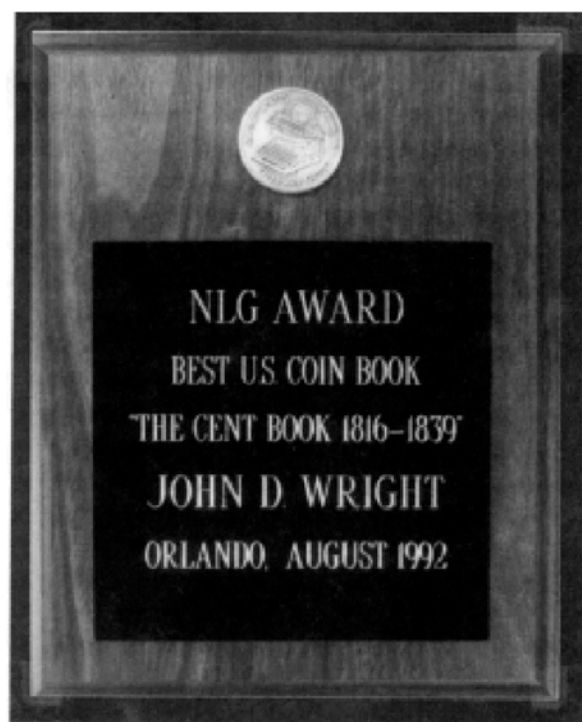
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